

I am writing to seek information on your authority's approach to disability issues. I would be grateful if you could respond to the following questions under the Freedom of Information Act.

- 1) Has your authority adopted the social model of disability in its practices? No, not formally.
  
- 2) If yes to Q1, has this been formally adopted at a council meeting or similar? N/A as above
  
- 3) Have your staff and councillors been trained in disability awareness, including the social model of disability? We offer all staff access to the following –  
E-Learning modules in EDI,  
Disability Awareness and Safeguarding Children with Disabilities and we are starting F2F EDI training in the New Year to all Managers.  
  
320 Staff have been trained in MH Dementia and learning Disability Awareness  
  
Elected Members have received training in autism and mental health / mental illness awareness.
  
- 4) Do your equality impact assessments include reference to the social model of disability and its implications for policy decisions? Again not formally, our culture, training etc does adopt the social model of disability (people are disabled by barriers in society, not by their difference). And we do focus on listening to lived experience.
  
- 5) Does your authority employ an access officer or similar (e.g. access design officer or disabilities officer) to provide advice to officials and others about access standards and design? If yes, please provide the specific job title. We do not have one person who holds this role, we have several Inclusion teams across the Council that support.
  
- 6) Is your authority part of the Disability Confident scheme? If so, at what level - Committed, Employer, Leader? We have Level 2 - Employer accreditation